



Kansas African American Affairs Commission

**April General Meeting Minutes (Approved)**

**Landon State Office Building – Room 102D**

**Thursday, April 8, 2010**

**10:00 a.m.**

- I. **Called to Order and Welcome** by Curtis Whitten, Chair at 10:30 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call and Introduction of Guest(s):** C. Whitten, N. Terrell, J. Barfield, H. Johnson, J. Williams, D. Dandridge – Present. L. Chinn – Absent. Visitor(s): Lazone Grays, KAAAC Business Development Committee Member, and Greg Bailey Public Information Officer for the Topeka Fire Department. Staff Present, M. Edwards, K. Seymour and B. Stiffler (during lunch). Quorum established.
- III. **Correspondence:** Folder disseminated no items needed attention
- IV. **Minutes:** Reading of the March 2010 General Meeting Minutes.
  - a. **Correction(s)**
    - i. Dr. Terrell should be included in the roll call
    - ii. In section V. (d). Dr. Terrell's name is spelled incorrectly; correct spelling is Nathaniel
  - b. **Acceptance of the Minutes**

Commissioner Terrell moved to approve the March 11, 2010 minutes with said corrections, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

- V. **ED's Update:** Mildred Edwards reported the following:
  - a. **General Fund** expenditures current at 60.24%. The following balance was reported Salaries and Wages - \$84,689.35 (\$56,889.65) Discussion was held regarding the personnel line item for FY 2010.
  - b. **Donation Fund Balance to date:** \$ 1,421.00
  - c. **Cultivation (6), Collaboration (11), and Administrative (19) activities reported.**
    - i. D. Dandridge asked about the meeting with the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) President Reginald Robinson. Dr. Edwards explained the goals of the KBOR per President Robinson. Eight (8) upcoming events were reported, three (3) of which are ED personal appearances: Safe Streets General Meeting, YWCA Stand Against Racism event and Kansas Diversity Day.

**Action:** Commissioner Dandridge inquired about specific recruitment and retention plans for African American students and suggested that Dr. Edwards schedule a meeting with the incoming President of the BOR.

- d. **Strategic Plan Update:** Additions and implementation of the strategic plan addressed
  - i. **Strategy 1:**
    - Scheduled meetings with the Kansas Health Institute Executive Director and the Sunflower Foundation Executive Director regarding health disparities data
    - Identified the following key indicators to measure
      - a. Health – Tobacco and Obesity

- b. Education – School Readiness and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Reading
  - c. Employment – In progress
  - d. Business Development – In Progress
  - e. Social Services – Foster Care Admissions and Reintegration rates; TANF Recipients
- ii. **Strategy 2:**
  - Provided legislative updates via Facebook
  - Responded to requests for information from various community representatives
  - Secured KAALC sponsors from both the House and Senate for all Capitol events; Delta Sigma Theta – Rep. McCray Miller and Senator Faust-Goudeau; Alpha Kappa Alpha – Rep. Finney and Senator Haley and TRIO Programs– Rep. Garcia and Senator Faust-Goudeau
- iii. **Strategy 3:**
  - Met with Board of Regents President Robinson
  - Re-scheduled meeting with Kansas State Department of Education Asst. Commissioner Julie Ford
- iv. **Strategy 4:**
  - Developed a Youth Civic Leadership Committee and began dialogue about a leadership program
- v. **Strategy 5:**
  - Conduct weekly phone calls with Chester Daniel, Urban League Kansas to update on the progress of the State of African American in Kansas document
  - Added TRIO programs to our list of statewide collaborative partners and wrote/secured a proclamation for their upcoming regional meeting in KC, MO and requesting the Governors appearance
  - Commissioned a letter of support from the Governor for a USD 259 grant proposal on behalf of Kim Burkhalter, KAAAC Education Committee member.
  - Commissioned a proclamation for upcoming Kansas Exodusters Reconnection IV conference
- e. **Board Governance:**
  - i. Finalized Commissioner Chinn’s successor Veronica Knight’s appointment.
  - ii. Met (or planned to meet) with three KAAAC Special Committees via conference call to discuss next steps: 1) Arts – April 1, 2010, 2) Business – April 2, 2010 and 3) Youth Civic Leadership – April 5, 2010
  - iii. Commissioners received portfolio style notebooks to represent the commission to their respective communities.

## VI. Old Business

### a. Legislative Updates/Priorities

- i. Discussion about SB 511 and the status of that bill. K. Seymour reported that the bill is slated to die at the end of this current legislative session. Dr. Edwards expressed that she would be meeting with the Secretary of Commerce and Rhonda Harris on Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss SB 511 and what the Department of Commerce wanted the legislation to look like; commissioners were all invited.

**b. Special Program(s) Outcomes**

- i. K. Seymour gave an update on the program and days at the capitol from the month of March. As well as gave an update on all the social media activities.

**c. Special Project(s) Outcomes**

- i. B. Stiffler gave an update on the status of the PSA process and suggested next time we decide to do PSA's we start planning a little further in advance so that the radio stations have not given away all of their free time.

**VII. New Business**

**a. State of African Americans in Kansas Project** update provided by Dr. Edwards

**b. Special Programs and Public Policy Updates**

**i. New Social Media Activities**

- List Serve is up and running and we are slowly adding names to that list there are 102 names on the list.

**ii. Special Events and Programs**

- In April we will be a hosting site for the YWCA's Stand Against Racism. We will be hosting diversity training for high school students. Ms. Donna Douglas Diversity Coordinator for Boeing (Wichita) will be our presenter.

**c. Special Projects and Public Policy Updates**

**i. Post Session Legislative Score Card**

- B. Stiffler explained that the score card is still in production. The KAAAC Score Card will be designed to be a politically useful tool for African American groups desiring to advocate for issues related to the KAAAC strategic plan.

**ii. Quarterly newsletters**

- B. Stiffler recommended that we follow bills more closely so that in the future we can do an End of Session Newsletter and End of Summer update and another newsletter edition that will preview the opening of the legislative session.

**iii. Ongoing Press Releases and Proclamations**

- B. Stiffler said that she writes press releases and proclamations as needed for the office

**d. Fundraising ideas/opportunities**

- i. Dr. Edwards explained that we need to do some fundraising in order to fund our Youth Civic Leadership Academy. She suggested a bowling tournament that is sanctioned by a bowling league. Commissioners also made the following suggestions:

- Basketball Game
- White Linen Party at Cedar Crest
- Football Game
- Golf Tournament

**VIII. Announcements:**

**a. Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> 2010: Day to End Racism**

**b. Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual State of Kansas Diversity Celebration**

- c. **Commissioner Dandridge:** Black Faculty and Staff banquet at KU, April 16<sup>th</sup> tickets are \$25.00 6:30p.m. The speaker is Sharon Woodson from California.

**IX. Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kaelyn Seymour

---

***Approved May 13, 2010 with the following correction:***

- a. *Attendance: A clear distinction should be made between Commissioners in attendance and those absent.*